

**Amendments to the Claims:**

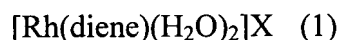
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-20 (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) Diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex of the formula:



where diene is a cyclic diene and X is a noncoordinating anion.

22. (Previously Presented) The diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 21, wherein diene is 1,5-cyclooctadiene (COD) or norbornadiene (NBD).

23. (Previously Presented) The diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 21, wherein X is a noncoordinating anion selected from the group consisting of  $\text{BF}_4^-$  and  $\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3^-$ .

24. (Previously Presented) The diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 22, wherein X is a noncoordinating anion selected from the group consisting of  $\text{BF}_4^-$  and  $\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3^-$ .

25. (Previously Presented) The diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 21 having the name 1,5-cyclooctadienebisaquorhodium(I) tetrafluoroborate.

26. (Previously Presented) The diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 22 having the name 1,5-cyclooctadienebisaquorhodium(I) tetrafluoroborate.

27. (Previously Presented) Diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 21 having the name 1,5-cyclooctadienebisaquorhodium(I) trifluoromethylsulphonate.

28. (Previously Presented) Diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 22 having the name 1,5-cyclooctadienebisaquorhodium(I) trifluoromethylsulphonate.

29. (Previously Presented) The diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 21, wherein the complex is in the form of a solid.

30. (Previously Presented) Process for preparing a diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 21, which comprises reacting a rhodium(I)-olefin compound with a silver salt in an aqueous solvent mixture as a reaction mixture, wherein the silver salt is prepared in solution and is added to the reaction mixture.

31. (Previously Presented) The process for preparing a diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 30, wherein the silver salt is prepared in solution by reacting silver oxide ( $\text{Ag}_2\text{O}$ ) with the acid corresponding to the noncoordinating anion of the diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex.

32. (Previously Presented) The process for preparing a diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 30, wherein the acid is used in an excess of up to 0.5 molar equivalents over the silver oxide.

33. (Previously Presented) The process for preparing a diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 30, wherein the preparation of the silver salt is carried out in an aqueous medium.

34. (Previously Presented) The process for preparing a diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 31, wherein the preparation of the silver salt is carried out in an aqueous medium.

35. (Previously Presented) The process for preparing a diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 30, wherein the rhodium(I)-olefin compound is  $[\text{Rh}(\text{COD})\text{Cl}]_2$ .

36. (Previously Presented) The process for preparing a diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 30, wherein the aqueous solvent mixture comprises water together with up to 10% by volume of at least one alcoholic solvent.

37. (Previously Presented) The process for preparing a diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 31, wherein the aqueous solvent mixture comprises water together with up to 10% by volume of at least one alcoholic solvent.

38. (Previously Presented) The process for preparing a diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 36, wherein the alcoholic solvent is selected from methanol, ethanol, n-propanol, isopropanol, n-butanol and tert-butanol.

39. (Previously Presented) In a catalytic reaction, the improvement comprising carrying out said reaction in the presence of diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 21.

40. (Currently Amended) ~~In a~~ A method for preparing a heterogeneous catalyst, the ~~improvement~~ comprising carrying out said method ~~with~~ in the presence of a diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 21.

41. (Currently Amended) ~~In a~~ A method for preparing a chirally nonselective, diastereoselective or enantioselective catalytically active species comprising carrying out said method in the presence of a diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex according to Claim 21.

42. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 41, wherein the diene-bis-aquo-rhodium(I) complex is reacted with achiral and/or chiral ligands with ligand exchange.

43. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 42, wherein the achiral and/or chiral ligands are selected from the group consisting of triphenylphosphine, ferrocenylphosphine, alkylphosphine and chiral phosphine.

44. - 45. (Cancelled)